



THURSDAY EVENING, FEB. 26, 1903

## THE Norfolk Landmark says:

"Virginia's member of the naval committee of the House of Representatives is the Hon. John F. Rixey, of Culpeper. He is a good man in his place and a credit to the State, but his place is not on the naval committee. He is opposed, along with Congressman Jones of the First district, to materially increasing the navy."

We thought better things than this of the Landmark, for it looks like this journal is joining in the cry for "the old flag and an appropriation." Many will think that for the mere chance of getting a ship built in Norfolk the Landmark would encourage Congress in this reckless expenditure of the public money. Mr. Rixey fully answered such critics as the Landmark in his speech in the House last week in opposition to that part of the naval appropriation bill which provides for the construction of four additional battleships. He took the ground that it is bad policy to build new ships over old plans, and that it would be best to wait and see the outcome of some of the experiments now going on before any more ships are authorized. He said he felt that there has been a systematic effort to scare the people into building a big navy by talking of a possible war with Germany, and took the ground that the men who profit most by the building of the ships are most active in creating a public sentiment in favor of the expansion of the navy. He also stated that it would require ten years to finish the ships already contracted for.

REPRESENTATIVE DEARMOND, of Missouri, yesterday introduced a resolution requesting the President to learn and advise the Congress upon what terms, if any, satisfactory to the inhabitants of the territory affected, Great Britain would consent to cede Canada to the United States. Mr. DeArmond is considered one of the ablest men in the House, but why he should have conceived such an idea is not understood by his friends. If there is a hidden meaning in the resolution it lies down too deep to be discovered by the casual reader, for certain it is that England would as soon think of ceding Canada to the United States as the United States would think of ceding to England. It is hoped that Mr. DeArmond is not given to bunkum.

The subcommittee of the House committee on merchant marine and fisheries, that went to Boston to investigate the subject of coal transportation, reported to the full committee a few days since the results of the hearings held. The report reviews the conditions found from the evidence to have existed, but upon the question as to whether any understanding between the coal roads and operators existed the subcommittee expresses no opinion. Owing to the fact that the session is so near an end, the subcommittee finds it impossible to continue the investigation. This shows the humbuggery of commissions which have degenerated into mere junketing trips.

AN INTERNATIONAL congress of anarchists is to be held in Paris, at which, it is said, arrangements are to be made for active work in the interests of the organization. It is even alleged that certain rulers are to be marked for removal. The past few years' history should be a sufficient reminder to all nations that the time has come when something should be done in the way of suppressing gatherings which aim to destroy all forms of human government and to plunge the world in chaos. France is a fertile field for such noxious growths, and the coming convention will doubtless prove a propaganda for anarchists.

DR. C. H. CRAWFORD, known as the president of the Virginia Anti-Saloon League, who was recently removed from that position, will go to Baltimore and make his headquarters there. Rev. Crawford is the minister who was cowed by Judge Campbell, which affair brought about the Campbell-Crawford investigation now going on before the legislature. It was a sad day for Virginia when Mr. Crawford was brought here from the North. He did not understand the people of the South, so kept himself and others in hot water all the time he was in Virginia. He leaves the State for the State's good.

IN THE House of Delegates on Tuesday a joint resolution was adopted providing for the appointment of a commission to adjust the statutes to the new constitution and report by March 11. A provision for a recess from April 3 to June 1 was stricken out. A similar resolution was advocated several months ago by Mr. Cato, who showed at that time that a committee could do the work of adjusting better and quicker than could the entire legislature, but his measure was defeated. Of course the provision for a recess was stricken out of Tuesday's resolution, for during such a recess the members would not receive their four dollars a day!

## FROM WASHINGTON.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]

Washington, D. C., Feb. 26.

Charges that Reed Smoot, the recently elected Senator from Utah, is a polygamist, were today formally filed with the Senate committee on privileges and elections. They are presented in the form of a sworn statement signed by J. L. Leitch, associate representative of the citizens and electors of Utah. The document, which consists of 13 counts, was drawn up by General W. W. Dudley, of this city. This Congress can take no action upon it, nor can Mr. Smoot be prevented from taking the oath when the next Senate meets, but by filing the document now, it constitutes a charge against his eligibility to hold his seat which will have to be investigated at the next session. It is evident that Mr. Smoot's opponents propose to press the matter. The charges state specifically that "Reed Smoot is a polygamist, and that since the admission of Utah into the union of States he, although then and there having a legal wife, married a plural wife in the State of Utah, and since such plural or polygamous marriage the said Reed Smoot has lived and cohabited with both his legal wife and his plural wife in the State of Utah and elsewhere, as occasion offered." The only record of the plural marriage, the petition says, is "a secret record in the exclusive custody and control of the First Presidency and the quorum of the 12 apostles of the said Church, of which the said Reed Smoot is one," and the Senate committee is urged to compel the church to produce this secret record for the consideration of the Senate. Senator-elect Smoot, when shown a copy of this document, declared emphatically: "It is an infamous lie. I have but one wife. I never contracted a plural marriage, and I defy these people to name or produce the polygamist wife they accuse me of possessing or of any other woman with whom I have ever cohabited, except my legal wife."

The reelection of Mrs. Cornelia Cole Fairbanks, wife of Senator Fairbanks, of Indiana, at this morning's session of the D. A. R., was marked by the first unpleasant incident of the congress. When a motion was put instructing the secretary to cast the entire vote of the congress for Mrs. Fairbanks, there was one dissenting voice of "No," the sound coming from the direction of the New York delegation. Immediately a chorus of hisses greeted this unpopular negative, and Mrs. Donald McLean, of New York, who had just seconded Mrs. Fairbanks' nomination in a brilliant speech, made a request that the dissenting vote be withdrawn. By common consent this was taken for granted, and Mrs. Fairbanks was declared unanimously elected. Mrs. McLean, who last year was Mrs. Fairbanks' most vigorous competitor for the honor, complimented the work of her old opponent highly and besought her unanimous reelection. There was no other candidate. The amount contributed to the Continental Hall fund yesterday by the delegates was announced this morning to be more than \$10,000.

Testimony was taken informally this morning regarding outrages in the Philippines, at the office of Senator Carmack, the minority leader of the Senate Philippine committee. The witnesses present had been refused a hearing by a strict party vote of the full committee. The democratic Senators therefore decided to hear the testimony themselves. Albert L. Cross, of Burlington, Vt., submitted an affidavit stating that he and another man had administered the water cure to Father Augustine by direction of Captain Brownell, and in his presence. The object of the torture, he said, was to get money supposed to belong to the insurgent government. T. O'Connor, of Pittsburgh, told of the severity with which the priest was handled on the gunboat Paragua, and of his appeals for aid. Lieutenant John T. Hall, of Oklahoma, told of the killing of Filipino prisoners by Major Matcalf, and Captain Bishop, and of the burning of houses.

The democrats of the House in caucus today pledged themselves to resist the misusing of Congressman Butler from Missouri as recommended by the majority and to stand together in support of the demand for the presence of a quorum at all times for the transaction of business, and a recorded yea and nay vote upon everything upon which the House shall act up to the moment of final adjournment. Representative Hay, of Virginia, presided and Mr. Cowherd, of Missouri, acted as Secretary. The resolution denounced in plain terms the attempt on the part of the republicans to unseat Butler and the seating of Wagoner, which they regarded as blind partisanship in disregard of a majority of \$3,000 by which Butler was returned. "We will kill all vicious legislation," said Secretary Cowherd after the meeting. "Our action, I believe, will make it impossible for the republicans to pass anything except the appropriation bills. This will not have the effect of forcing an extra session. But we will not allow Butler to be unseated without making the best fight we can make." The floor fight in the Butler case will be in charge of Representatives DeArmond, Richardson and Feely. The republicans have held hurried conferences to devise a counter programme to that of the democrats. "The only thing to do," said Mr. Cannon, "is to get the republicans in and maintain a republican quorum. We will do business ourselves, if necessary. We have a committee on rules that will see to it that business is not suspended."

A sensation was sprung today when it was learned that the Pennsylvania Railroad had written to members of the House soliciting their support of the Senate amendment to the Union Station bill for this city.

President Roosevelt has informed certain Senators that he will positively call the Senate together in extra session, beginning March 9th, if the canal and Cuban reciprocity treaties are not ratified before the end of the present session. With this definite assurance the Senate leaders have concluded to make a strong effort to ratify the two treaties this week.

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CONGRESSIONAL.

The Senate yesterday made rapid progress in the disposition of matters pending before it. As stated in the Gazette of that day the statehood riders to the agriculture and postoffice appropriation bills were withdrawn and both bills passed. The House amendments to the Philippine currency bill were agreed to with but slight discussion, thus sending the bill to the President, and the sundry beginning March 9th, if the canal and Cuban reciprocity treaties are not ratified before the end of the present session. With this definite assurance the Senate leaders have concluded to make a strong effort to ratify the two treaties this week.

The anthracite coal strike arbitration commission, which has been in session here since last Thursday, is rapidly approaching the close of its labors. Although no formal awards have been formulated, tentative agreements have been reached on almost every feature and no marked differences of opinion have arisen. The most important work yet to be done is the framing of the report, which will be a lengthy one. President Roosevelt is to announce the awards to the interested parties as soon as he shall have received them.

President Roosevelt left for New York today at 11 a. m. He will return after midnight, leaving Jersey City at 12:10 a. m. At New York the President will speak at the Wesley Bicentenary celebration at Carnegie Hall. After making his address the President will proceed to the University Club where he will hold a small reception. The presidential party consisted of Secretary Loeb, Dr. Rixey, Commander Cowles, a stenographer and representatives of the press associations. Aboard the train were two detectives who stood close to the President whenever he appeared upon the platform or left the train. The arrest in New York last night of Francis Hirtzel, a self-confessed anarchist, accounts for the extraordinary precautions that will be taken on the present trip. It is believed by the authorities that he was waiting in Jersey City to attack President Roosevelt. At all the stopping places along the line of the President's route, extra details of policemen and detectives in citizens dress will be stationed to watch for suspicious characters.

The Panama Canal Company has replied to Attorney General Knox's cablegram accepting the two minor modifications in the contract for the purchase of the property by the United States which were suggested by him. No official declaration has yet been received from the company as to whether it will consent to the extension of the option after the 4th of March should the Senate fail to ratify the Colombian treaty before that time, although it is hoped that such an arrangement may yet be effected. In the meantime the United States is using all its influence to secure the ratification of the treaty before the close of the present session.

A number of Richmond people are here to see Senator Martin and Representative Lamb about the appropriation for the postoffice building in their city. From what is learned here the Richmonders don't know what they do want.

The Republican National Editorial Association met today in convention at the Arlington Hotel.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and his wife were guests of Booker T. Washington at Tuskegee, Ala., yesterday.

The first blow was struck yesterday on the work of constructing the Pennsylvania Railroad tunnel under the East and North rivers and through New York city.

General Ochona, who owns the Popocatepetl volcano, including immense sulphur deposits in its crater, is reported to